(*b*) Government are aware that it is so generally. Logs, on arrival at the depôt, are first selected by the *Panivagai* and other Government departments and then by the general public, and all logs so selected are paid for at tariff rates. It is only the balance left over after these selections that is sold in public auction.

Sale of Salt at Munambam and Alleppey.

27. MR. A. GOVINDA MENON (*Alengad* cum *Parur*): Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they have made any enquiry into the malpractices regarding the sale of salt at Munambam and Alleppey, brought to the notice of this House at its last session ; and

(*b*) whether, if such enquiry has been made, they will furnish this House with the result of such enquiry ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The Excise Commissioner has enquired into the allegations and has submitted his reports. The reports are under examination by the Government.

Allegations against Certain Excise Officers.

28. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Have the Government enquired into the allegations brought against the Excise Officers at Alleppey, Munambam and Alwaye, by Messrs. Mammen Mappillai and Khadir Pillai at the last session of the Council, and if so, what the results of the enquiry are ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 27 [16].

Assistant Excise Commissioner, Mr. C. T. Oommen.

29. MR. M. R. MADHAVA VARIAR (*Chengannur* cum *Pattanamtitta*): Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council whether any action has been taken against the Assistant Excise Commissioner, Mr. C. T. Oommen, in view of Mr. Khadir Pillai's statements about him at the last meeting of the Council ?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*) : The member is referred to the answer to interpellation No. 27 [16].

Excise Officers Trained in Distillery Work.

30. MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*) : Will the Government be pleased to mention :

(*a*) the names of the Assistant Excise Commissioners and the Inspectors who have been trained in distillery matters at the expense of the Government ;

(*b*) the institutions, ranges and divisions where such officers are posted now ; and

(*c*) the names of the officers who have now been placed in charge of the distilleries and their special qualifications.

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[Mr. A. Hoogewerf.]

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*):

(*a*) Assistant Excise Commissioners Messrs. C. T. Oommen and M. Parasu Pillai and Inspector Mr. A. Raman Pillai.

(*b*) (i) Mr. C. T. Oommen, B. A., Assistant Excise Commissioner, is now in charge of the Alwaye Division.

(ii) Mr. M. Parasu Pillai, B. A., Assistant Excise Commissioner, is now in charge of the Piravam Division.

(iii) Mr. A. Raman Pillai, B. A., Excise Inspector, is now in the Neyyattinkara Range.

(*c*) Mr. S. Arumanayakam, Excise Inspector, is now in charge of the Nagercoil distillery and Mr. S. Ramakrishna Aiyar, Excise Inspector, in charge of the Vaikam distillery. They have no special qualifications.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state whether there are specially trained men in the department for distillery work, and if so, whether they have such qualifications as to be in charge of distilleries?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): The answer to this is contained in part (*d*) of the answer to the next question, in which it is stated;

"In the interests of the department and of the officers themselves it is not desirable to keep an officer for a long time in the same station and on the same work".

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): What are the qualifications of the men who are now in charge of the distilleries?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): They have no special qualifications.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Then what is the necessity for sending men for qualifying themselves?

PRESIDENT: It has already been answered, Mr. M. N. Pillai. Mr. Paramesvara Aiyar has drawn your attention to the answer to part (*d*) of the next question.

MR. M. N. PILLAI (*Trivandrum*): Will the Government be pleased to state how long they were kept in charge of the distillery?

MR. S. PARAMESVARA AIYAR (*Secretary to Government*): I must have notice of that question.

Excise Inspectors to be Trained for Distillery Work.

31. MR. A. HOOGEWERF (*Nominated*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether it is a fact that two Excise Inspectors are to be deputed to learn distillery work in Madras;

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